

[illegible]

Installation Requirements:

Site Preparation and Soil Amendments

Site preparation shall be done at a time and manner to ensure successful establishment of the cover crop. Before planting with a conventional drill or by broadcasting, prepare a seedbed by chiseling and/or disking. Seedbed preparation is usually not needed when using a no-till drill, and is generally not possible when over-seeding into a standing crop. Apply lime and fertilizer only if needed based on recent soil test results. Any use plant nutrients should be in accordance with a nutrient management plan or schedule, as applicable. Additional fertilizer should not be applied prior to planting when the cover crop is intended to benefit water quality by uptake of excess nutrients.

Planting Methods

For best results, place seeds at a controlled depth with the soil firmed around the seed. Drilling or planting with a cultipacker-seeder are preferred seeding methods because they optimize seed-soil contact. Other methods may be used, such as broadcasting and over-seeding, but these methods usually result in poorer seed distribution and germination, and require higher seeding rates to compensate and provide good coverage. Plant cover crops as early as feasible within the time period indicated in the Recommended Cover Crops, Table 1 located in the eFOTG. This may be immediately after harvesting the previous crop, or in the case of a late harvest, it may require over-seeding before harvest. When planting near the end of the growing season, select a cover crop that will germinate and grow rapidly to help assure a successful stand.

Operation and Maintenance

Control growth of the cover crop to reduce competition from volunteer plants and shading. Control weeds in cover crops by mowing or by using other pest management techniques. Control soil moisture depletion by selecting water efficient plant species and terminating the cover crop before excessive transpiration.

Additional Specifications and Notes:

Check Out and Certification Requirements:

I certify that the above Planting Specifications and Installation requirements _____ have _____ have not been met in accordance with the criteria of the NRCS PA Conservation Practice Standard PA 340. The total of _____ acres of this practice were installed on the locations covered by this job sheet on the date(s) of _____.

Signature Designated Conservationist or Technical Service Provider

Date

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